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inctive marks, political intercourse, warlike arts, religion, and superstitions of the nations of the Sudan, occupy the remainder of the treatise, which is worthy of perusal.

2. *Expédition à la Recherche des Sources du Nil* (1839-40). *Journal de M. THIBAUT, publié par les soins de M. le Comte d'ESCAIRAC de LAUTURE.*

THIS is a narrative of a companion of M. d'Arnaud, who, under the auspices of Mehemet Ali, made several expeditions up the White Nile, which he ascended as high as lat. $4^{\circ} 42' N$. The journal of M. d'Arnaud was published in the 'Bulletin de la Société de Géographie' in 1842. M. Thibaut accompanied that explorer in his first expedition as far up the White Nile as lat. $6^{\circ} 33'$, in the winter of 1839-40.

On their leaving Khartum, Mehemet Ali, the ruler of Egypt, assembled the members of the expedition in the grand divan of the Governor of Nubia, and thus addressed them in giving his parting instructions:—"I do not enter into those countries as a conqueror; be prudent; make presents worthy of me; acquire the good will of the savage people, whom, no doubt, you will meet with in great number; obtain their friendship by benefits. The troops which attend you are only for your protection, and not for attack." This oration, delivered "with that amenity which distinguished him," was truly paternal. It will be hereafter seen how the instructions of the Pasha were carried out. The expedition consisted, besides the special officers, of 400 infantry soldiers, under the command of an adjutant-major and a certain Soliman Cachef, and was conveyed in five gun-boats and five other boats, accompanied by fifteen river transports, carrying provisions for eight months, and munitions of war. It left Khartum on Nov. 16, and in the journal of M. Thibaut, under the date of the 18th, we find the following description:—"The White Nile is not dangerous from sandbanks, as is the Blue Nile; its course is interspersed with numerous islands, which increase in number on proceeding southward. It is of pretty equal depth, but during the season of low water its navigation is difficult, from shell-banks and fallen trees which encumber its bed." The banks on both sides are described as in most parts fertile and well-wooded.

The memoir is unaccompanied by any map. No barometrical, and very few thermometrical observations are recorded; nor are the latitudes and longitudes given of any of the places mentioned. These are disadvantages which very much detract from the value of the narrative as a geographical record. The descriptions of the countries traversed are, however, by no means destitute of interest. On arriving at Lake Nu (which is laid down in the chart attached to the work previously noticed), where several rivers disemboque, the expedition took the wrong track, and ascended a river which was found to be impassable for the flotilla, owing to a vast depth of mud. Ultimately the vessels retraced their course, a distance of 45 miles, and at length rediscovered the main stream of the White Nile, which, above Lake Nu, comes from the south-east.

The Egyptian troops appear soon afterwards, from the details given, to have become ungovernable by their officers; and the latter were imposed upon by a lying or suspicious dragoman. Amongst other exploits, on the 4th of January, whilst in the country of the Kyks, and after a supply of oxen had been afforded to the expedition by the natives, a crowd of the latter assembled on the banks of the river, either attracted by curiosity, or desirous to exchange their weapons and bracelets for glass beads and other ornaments, "when the dragoman, or interpreter, gave notice that the natives opposed the passage.

This, *before it was ascertained to be well founded*, was a signal for massacre. The advanced guard fired; few victims fell, but the people took to flight through the tall grass which concealed them. The soldiery, furious, hastened pell-mell out of the barks; and deaf to recall, pursued the blacks. Some officers followed them, but could not restrain their eagerness. Those of the Sudan were especially violent: many blacks fell before their attack." Again on the 6th, "A hundred blacks, amongst whom were women, showed themselves at a distance watching us; some were dancing, others carried arrows and lances. Our dragoman assured us that they had ill intentions; this was a signal for attack. A sub-officer commanding thirty men ordered them to fire; one black fell, the rest took to flight, and our troops put themselves in line of battle to the sound of the drum. . . . This expedition was terrible; many of the natives, unable to save themselves, fell victims. A lake into which many of these unfortunates threw themselves was strewn with dead bodies. Our men returned *glorieux!* driving before them some young calves, &c. It was an absurd folly to desire to punish these people, who, doubtless, *had no idea of injuring us. The dragoman had done it all.*" By such manifestations as these, the Egyptians hoped to open a commerce with the interior! Such commerce, however, if it could be established, could not fail to be profitable. In one decayed village the author observed that elephants' teeth were picketed in the ground to form pens for cattle, and had been used in the construction of cabins and outhouses.

The expedition arrived at Khartum, on its return, March 29, 1840, after an absence of four months and a half. On the 26th of January the boats had reached a point beyond which the diminished depth of water at that season would not permit them to advance. M. Thibaut records at full length a speech of his own (p. 81) in a council of deliberation held on the subject, which he says materially influenced the decision for an immediate return.

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3. *Biblical Researches in Palestine and the adjacent Regions: a Journal of Travels in the Years 1838 and 1852.* By EDWARD ROBINSON, ELI SMITH, and others. Drawn up by Professor E. ROBINSON, D.D., Gold Medallist R.G.S., etc. Second edition, with new Maps and Plans. Murray.

Four handsome volumes, under the above title, have recently been added to the library of the Society. The former edition, for which it will be recollected the Society awarded to its author a gold medal in 1842, was in three volumes. These, as Professor Robinson announces, have in the present edition been compressed into two volumes, partly by a change of type and partly by the omission of portions of the former appendix and notes, whilst the text remains for the most part unchanged. The third volume of the present edition consists of the additional researches of the author and his fellow-travellers in the same region in 1852; and the fourth of the volumes, to which we have alluded, is merely a duplicate of the third in the second edition, and is published in a separate form, to render complete the series belonging to the possessors of the first edition.

The journeys of Professor Robinson, as detailed in the volumes published in 1841, were first through central Europe to portions of Greece and Egypt—then from Cairo to Suez—to Mount Sinai—to Akabah—to Jerusalem and through its neighbourhood, after descriptions of the topography, antiquities, history, statistics, &c., of that city—from Jerusalem (N.) to Bethel—to 'Ain Jidy, the Dead Sea, Jordan, &c.—from Jerusalem (S.W. and S.) to Gaza and Hebron—from Hebron (S.S.E.) to Wady Musa and Petra—from Hebron to Ramleh and